

Information Paper

1. **PURPOSE.** To provide a list of key IW documents and pronouncements by military and civilian officials concerning the activities that are considered to comprise irregular warfare.

2. **FACTS.** The following documents discuss activities that are considered to be IW. "Activity" is defined in JP 1-02, *Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms*, as "A function, mission, action, or collections of actions."

a. **Quadrennial Defense Review, 6 February 2006, listed 4 IW activities ("including"):**

Long-duration unconventional warfare
Counterterrorism
Counterinsurgency
Military support for stabilization and reconstruction efforts.

b. **IW Roadmap, reiterated in JFCOM *Irregular Warfare Special Study*, 4 August 2006, listed 10 IW activities ("illustrative list"):**

Insurgency and counterinsurgency
Terrorism and counterterrorism
Unconventional warfare
Foreign internal defense
Stability, security, transition, and reconstruction operations
Transnational criminal activities that support or sustain IW and the law enforcement activities to counter them
Civil-military operations
Psychological operations
Information operations
Intelligence and counterintelligence operations

c. **BG Otis Mannon, Dep Dir, Special Operations, J3, prepared statement for House Armed Services Committee, 27 September 2006, has 8 activities ("Examples, but are not limited to"):**

Insurgency and counterinsurgency
Terrorism and counterterrorism
Unconventional warfare
Foreign internal defense
Stability, security, transition, and reconstruction operations
Transnational criminal activities
Information operations (including psychological operations)

Intelligence and counterintelligence operations.

- d. **ADM Eric Olson, Commander, USSOC, testimony before House Armed Services Committee, 27 September 2006, listed 5 activities (“And much more”):**

Insurgency
Counterinsurgency
Guerrilla warfare
Unconventional warfare
Asymmetric warfare

- e. **IW JOC, 1.0, 11 September 2007, listed 14 activities (“examples of . . . operations and activities that can be conducted as part of IW”):**

Insurgency
Counterinsurgency
Unconventional warfare
Terrorism
Counterterrorism
Foreign internal defense
Stabilization, security, transition, and reconstruction efforts
Strategic communications
Psychological operations
Information operations
Civil-military operations
Intelligence and counterintelligence activities
Transnational criminal activities, including narco-trafficking, illicit arms dealing, and illegal financial transactions that support or sustain IW
Law enforcement activities focused on countering irregular adversaries

- f. **FM 3-05.130, September 2008, *Unconventional Warfare*, lists 14 IW activities (“constituent activities”) (Merriam-Webster defines constituent as “a thing, person, or organism that along with others serves in making up a complete whole or unit : an essential part : COMPONENT):**

Insurgency
Counterinsurgency
Unconventional Warfare
Terrorism
Counterterrorism
Foreign Internal Defense
Stability, Security, Transition, and Reconstruction
Strategic Communications
Psychological Operations

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Civil-military operations
Information operations
Intelligence and counterintelligence
Transnational criminal activities, including narco-trafficking, illicit arms dealing,
and illegal financial transactions that support or sustain IW.
Law enforcement activities focused on countering irregular adversaries.

g. DoDD 3000.07, 1 December 2008 (“IW can include”):

Counterterrorism
Unconventional Warfare
Foreign Internal Defense
Counterinsurgency
Stability Operations

**h. JP 1, *Doctrine for the Armed Forces of the United States*, 20 March 2009
(Does not use the term “activities” for IW. “IW typically manifests itself as
one or a combination of several possible forms including”):**

Insurgency
Terrorism
Information operations
Organized criminal activity
Strikes
Raids

Examples of US responses
Counterinsurgency
Counterterrorism

**i. JOC 2.0, 17 May 2010, lists 11 IW activities (“principally five activities or
operations” and “a host of key related activities”):**

Core activities
Counterterrorism
Unconventional Warfare
Foreign Internal Defense
Counterinsurgency
Stability Operations

Key related activities
Strategic Communications
Information Operations
Psychological Operation
Civil-Military Operations

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Support to Law Enforcement
Intelligence and Counterintelligence Operations

3. SUMMARY OF IW ACTIVITIES:

- a. QDR, 6 Feb 06: **4**
- b. JFCOM IW Special Study, 4 Aug 06: **10**
- c. BG Otis statement to HASC, 27 Sep 06: **8**
- d. ADM Olson testimony to HASC, 27 Sep 06: **5**
- e. IW JOC 1.0, 11 Sep 07: **14**
- f. FM 3-05.130, Sep 08: **14**
- g. DoDD 3000,07, 1 Dec 08: **5**
- h. JP 1, 20 Mar 09: **8**
- i. IW JOC 2.0, 17 May 10: **11**

4. CONCLUSIONS:

- a. There are inconsistencies among DoD, the Joint Staff, USSOCOM, and USASOC as to what activities constitute Irregular Warfare.
- b. Every list has a caveat that the list is not inclusive.
- c. That there is no agreement on what activities constitute IW creates significant problems both with the definition of IW and with how to address the DOTMLPF functions associated with IW.

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